

## NWDO Hosts Environmental Partnership Workshop

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On Feb. 2, environmental staff from the Northwest District Office hosted the “Northwest District Office Environmental Partnership Workshop” at the Sternberg Museum of Natural History in Hays. The main goal of the workshop was to establish a better working relationship with the counties and the sanitarians by making them more aware of the various activities conducted by NWDO staff.

Also, NWDO staff wanted them to become more familiar with the various programs within KDHE, and emphasized that in an era in which resources are becoming more limited, all partners must work together in protecting the environment.



**NWDO staff member, Norb Windholz, gives a presentation on the PWS and wastewater programs.**

All county commissioners, county Health administrators, sanitarians, LEPP coordinators, and county environmental staff from the 21 counties located within the NWDO boundaries were invited to attend this all day event. The NWDO environmental staff gave a brief presentation on the basics of their program and their job duties.

Presentations were also given by the KCC District Coordinator, KSU Watershed Specialist, Rush County Conservation District Manager, Environmental Scientist from BOW-Watershed Mgmt. section, and Local Environmental Protection Group Coordinators.

At the conclusion of the workshop an open discussion was held to explore how partners can work together in a more efficient manner. Many questions and comments were posed to KDHE staff during the discussion and workshop participants left with a better understanding and appreciation of the whys and hows of KDHE's functions and program. Similar workshops in the other districts are being planned for 2005.

A big “thank you” goes out to the environmental staff in NWDO and Watershed Management Section for making this workshop a success.